THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.."—OTHELLO.

No. 3013. *Friday, Aug.* 12, 1831. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing !"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer*.

Adelphi, Strand.

The Sorceress, Mr. Collins's violin, *The Quartette*, and *The Haunted Hulk*, were last night's amusements at this Theatre, and went off with great spirit.—The house was well filled.

Hay-market Theatre.

AT this house last night, after the new Farce of *Fricandeau*, the Comedy of *The Busy Body* was acted, cast with all the available strength of the company. This Comedy, without any high pretentions to brilliant wit or striking incident, is one of the most amusing of the oldComedies, it spreads a joyous sort of feeling through the house, and seems to put every one of the audience upon good terms with themselves. It was, upon the whole, excellently well performed, what there was deficient in *manners*, was compensated for by vivacity; and we are aware it is most difficult suitably to personate the ladies and gentlemen of by-gone days, who were a race as totally distinct in manners as in dress from those of the present time. Farren, in *Sir Frances Gripe*, afforded a high treat by the exercise of his rare and peculiar comic powers; it was a part exactly suited to him, and he made the most of it. Harley made an admirable *Marplot*; his flippant bustling manner was quite in character, and he committed his blunders with an air of self complacency which rendered them truly comic. Cooper and Brindal were efficient representatives of their respective parts. Miss Taylor's *Miranda*, and Mrs. Humby's *Patch*, were very good; the former lady, if she would only act more from her own impulses, and not be drilled so much, would be one of the best, if not *the best* of modern actresses. *My Grandmother* was the after-piece.—There was a very good house.

The Widow Vestris, we hear, was not so popular as heretofore during her last visit in the capital of the Emerald Isle.

An immense number of workmen are employed in making considerable alterations at the Olympic Theatre, preparatory to its re-opening in October. An additional tier of boxes is in process of building in order to accommodate the numerous visitors expected to honour this amusing little Theatre with their presence during the approaching season. The fascinating widow has, we have heard, strengthened her *corps dramatique* by the addition of some clever recruits enlisted by her in her provincial excursions during the recess, and she has several new pieces ready for immediate production. More than one or two of

our popular dramatists have been anxious to succeed to the vacant office of "Writer in ordinary to the Olympic," lately held by Mr. Planché.

A violinist, a pupil of Paganini, named Masoni, is electrifying the musical world, at Calcutta, by his astonishing performances, which bid fair to rival those of his celebrated master;—his benefit concert took place at the Town Hall, on the 7th of February, and is spoken of in terms of astonishment. Besides his command over the violin, Masoni is an able *improvisatore.—Asiatic Journal.*

A critic, in one of the Dublin papers, has christened MrsWood "The English *Theophone.*" This name sounds redolent of the Dublin *Alma Mater*, and is, no doubt, the manufacture of some unsuccessful competitor for a sizarship. "For the sake of the uninitiated," we give its translation,—"goddess voiced," a truly Homeric epithet, although vainly sought for in the Lexicon.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the elegant and commodious *Dining Rooms*, Leicester Place, corner of Leicester Square, where I have just dropt in to take my Dinner—here I find a profusion of newspapers, exquisite coffee, pretty and obliging waitresses, and what is a great consideration, very moderate charges—do pop in and take a snack—just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday I visit the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, to see the two new and enchanting Views—Mount St. Gothard, painted by M. Daguerre, and Village of Unterseen, in Switzerland, Painted by M. Daguerre—these *chef d'œuvres*, will shortly close to make room for two other beautiful Views just finished.

Afterwards, I inspect the wonder of wonders, *The Gigantic Whale*, the length of which is 95 feet, at the handsome Pavilion, Charing-Cross,—hundreds of the curious, visit this Queen of the Seas, which excites the admiration, and astonishment of the public.

Tuesday call at the Queen's Bazaar 78, Oxford Street—splendidly fitted-up and magnificently arranged—visit the *British Diorama*, the 4 Views, by Stanfield, highly interesting—Lounge in the *Physiorama*, 14 Views from all parts of the world truly unique and beautiful—Step into the *Octorama*, 8 new Views of the French Expedition to Algiers; to which is added a new Grand Exhibition of the French Revolution, painted on many thousand feet of canvass—grand composition, inimitable execution, and vast labour—crowded daily with fashionables.

On Wednesday, I step'd into Weeks's Royal Mechanical Exhibition, 3, Tichborne Street, opposite the Haymarket, and as there were some beautiful ladies there, fancied myself in the Harem of an Eastern Sultan; such a display of magnificent jewelled and ornamented mechanism—flowers opening—animals and figurs moving—birds singing, and every variety of motion so true to nature that no description can do it justice.

I daily, between 1 and 4, qualify Mrs. Pry's discordant notes with some harmoney divine, and may be found at *The Apollonicon*, 101, St. Martin's Lane—Horn's 'Deep, deep sea,' and Barnett's 'God preserve the King,' enchanting.

On Friday, I pop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.

I nightly lounge in the lobbies—fond of adventure—observed a beautiful Sylph admiring herself in my boots—'Why, Mr. Pry,' says she, 'does a great actress resemble Warren's Jet Blacking?' 'Because she cuts a *shine*.'—I never give it up.—but I intrude, beg pardon, your's. PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Roval, Adelphi, Strand.

English Opera Company.

This Evening, (7th time) a New Serio-Comic Opera, called

THE SORCERESS

Composed expressly for this Company, by Ferdinand Ries.
With entirely New Scenery, by Messrs. Tomkins and Pitt. The Machinery by Mr. Stribley. The Properties and Decorations, by Mr. Foster.

The Stadtholder of Gyllestein, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Count Arwed.....(his Nephew).....Mr T. MILLAR,
Black Naddock.....Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Oscar.....Mr ALDRIDGE, Megnet.....Mr J. BLAND,
Granx Blunderbudski, Mr J. REEVE,
The Countess Christine.....Miss BETTS,
Liska, (her Attendant, personating '*The Sorceress*,' Miss H. CAWSE,
Stella, Miss FERGUSON, Mina, Miss NOVELLO.

After which,

MR. COLLINS, surnamed the **ENGLISH PAGANINI,**
Will execute his extraordinary performance on the Violin:
1st—A grand Concerto Brillante, introducing the Harmonics, playing below and above the fingers. 2nd—A Quartetto on the Violin, when four distinct parts will be heard, 3rd—The Air, 'Dolce Concento,' with Pizzicato Variations. 4th—'Sul Margine,' with variations, upon One String, a part of which will be executed with the Bow between his Knees.

To which will be added, the new Operetta, called

TheOldRegimentals.

Chevalier Dandoli, Mr O. SMITH,
Dr Abel Muzz, Mr J. REEVE, Michael Braunbach, Mr BARTLEY,
Eva, (Daughter of Braunbach,) Miss H. CAWSE

To conclude with, the new Musical Entertainment, called

The Spring Lock!

Lorenzo de Medici, (Grand Duke of Florence,) Mr T. MILLAR,
Ludovico de Medici, (his Cousin,) Mr J. BLAND,
Giulio..... ....(in the Suite of Ludovico.).....Mr PERKINS,
Count Montefieri, Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Monaca.....(a Comic Actor,).....Mr J. RUSSELL,
Camaldoli, Mr BENSON HILL,
Doctor Manento,) Rival Physicians of Florence, (Mr J. REEVE,
Doctor Flamingo,) (Mr O. SMITH,
Aramantha, (Daughter of Count Montefieri,) Miss H. CAWSE,
Vergellina, (her Attendant,) Mrs KEELEY,
Monna Brigida, (Wife of Doctor Manente,) Mrs C. JONES.

To-morrow, The Sorceress, with The Sister of Charity, &c.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Farce of

Fish out of Water.

Sam Savoury, Mr HARLEY,
Charles, Mr VINING, Steward, Mr W. JOHNSON,
Alderman Gayfare, Mr MULLENEY,
Sir George Courtly.....Mr H. WALLACK,
Ellen Courtly, Mrs ASHTON,
Lucy.....Mrs W. JOHNSON.

After which, the Comedy, in 5 Acts, called The

School for Coquettes.

Lord Marston, Mr COOPER,
Lord Polter, Mr BRINDAL, Ralph, Mr WEBSTER,
General Lumley, Mr W. FARREN,
Howard..... ..Mr H. WALLACK,
Frederick Lumley, Mr VINING,
Fitz Albyn, Mr Coveney, Davison, Mr W. Johnson,
Amelia, Miss SIDNEY,
Lady Honoria Howard.....Miss TAYLOR,
Lady Hampton, Mrs GLOVER,
Lisette, Mrs T. Hill, Miss Starchwell, Mrs Tayleure,
Caroline Hampton, Miss J. Scott.

The Epilogue to be spoken by Miss Taylor.

To which will be added, a Comic Piece, called

Popping the Question.

Mr Primrose, Mr W. FARREN, Henry, Mr BARTLETT,
Miss Biffin, Mrs GLOVER, Bobbin, Mrs HUMBY,
Ellen, Miss J. SCOTT, Miss Winterblossom, Mrs TAYLEURE.

To conclude with, (4th time,) a Farce, called

FRICANDEAU;

Or, the Coronet & the Cook.

Fricandeau, Mr HARLEY,
Lambert, Mr WEBSTER, Marquis St. Albe, Mr BRINDAL,
The Duke de Valois, Mr VINING,
Chevalier de Courcy, Mr BARTLETT, La Roche, Mr NEWCOMBE,
Ladle, Mr V. Webster, Sergeant Moustache, Mr Coveney.
Ellen, Mrs ASHTON,
Rose, (with a new Song, by G. W. Maddison,) Mrs HUMBY.